

CLAIMS:

1. A user identification module for user equipment for use in an access network said module being arranged to enable a plurality of access network applications to run.
2. A user identification module as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plurality of access network applications run in parallel.
3. A user identification module as claimed in claim 1, wherein said module is arranged to enable at least one core network application to run, and wherein said module is arranged to enable said core network application to run in parallel with at least one of said plurality of access network applications.
4. A user identification module as claimed in claim 3, wherein said user identification module is arranged to generate authentication data for said core network and said access network, wherein said authentication data for said core network and for said access network is further arranged to be dependent on a common data set.
5. A user identification module as claimed in claim 4, wherein said common data set comprises data for use in encryption.
6. A user identification module as claimed in claim 4, wherein said common data set is arranged to comprise at least one shared key between the access network and the access network application or the core network application, said shared key being arranged to generate the required session key or keys.
7. A user identification module as claimed in claim 1, wherein said access network comprises at least one of;
a CDMA2000 network;

- a UMTS network;
- a IEEE802.11 network;
- a GSM network;
- a DAMPS network;
- a AMPS network,
- a WCDMA network.

8. A user identification module as claimed in claim 3, wherein said core network application is an IP multimedia service (IMS).

9. A user identification module as claimed in claim 1, said module comprising a Universal Integrated Circuit Card.

10. A communications system comprising
a plurality of access networks;
at least one user equipment arranged for use in at least one of said access networks; and
a user identification module for use in said at least one user equipment, said module being arranged to enable a plurality of access network applications to run.

11. A communications system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said plurality of access network applications run in parallel.

12. A communications system as claimed in claim 10, wherein said module is arranged to enable at least one core network application to run, and wherein said module is arranged to enable said core network application to run in parallel with at least one of said plurality of access network applications.

13. A communications system as claimed in claim 12, wherein said user identification module is arranged to generate authentication data for said core network and said access network, wherein said authentication data for said

core network and for said access network is further arranged to be dependent on a common data set.

14. A communications system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said common data set comprises data for use in encryption.

15. A communications system as claimed in claim 13, wherein said common data set is arranged to comprise at least one shared key between the access network and the access network application or the core network application, said shared key being arranged to generate the required session key or keys.

16. A communications system as claimed in claims 10, wherein said access network comprises at least one of;

- a CDMA2000 network;
- a UMTS network;
- a IEEE802.11 network;
- a GSM network;
- a DAMPS network;
- a AMPS network,
- a WCDMA network.

17. A communications system as claimed in claim 12, wherein said core network application is an IP multimedia service (IMS).

18. A communications system as claimed in claim 10, said module comprising a Universal Integrated Circuit Card.

19. A method for operating a user identification module for user equipment for use in an access network, comprising the step of:

enabling a plurality of access network applications to run.

20. A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein said step of enabling a plurality of access network applications to run comprises;

enabling a first access network application to run,

enabling a second access network application to run,

wherein said first and second access network applications are enabled to run in parallel.

21. A method as claimed in claims 19, further comprising the step of enabling at least one core network application to run,

wherein said step of enabling a plurality of access network applications and said step of enabling at least one core network to run are arranged to enable said at least one core network application to run in parallel with at least one of said plurality of access network applications.